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Fulvio Cacace: Note of Appreciation

I write a brief note in appreciation of the career of Fulvio Cacace. Rather than contribute a paper to this Festschrift, I thought it would be nice to provide a personal reminiscence.

I first became aware of Fulvio's work from the mechanistic literature in the mid to late 1960s. This was just about the time that I was beginning to work in the area of gas phase ion chemistry, and I was, of course, impressed—really overwhelmed to be honest, with the extraordinary work that had already been done as well as the current work.

What was so striking to me about Fulvio's science was a remarkable combination of novelty and insight. Cacace brought to the field a set of questions and answers that simply were not available to those of us who were using other techniques. Fulvio always clearly knew what questions to ask. He has consis-

tently addressed questions of relevance to the broader organic and physical chemistry communities, and he has also exposed some of the truly important aspects of ionic chemistry in very different pressure regimes.

Finally, Fulvio has made a major contribution to all of us through his teachings. The importance of the Italian contingent in our world of chemistry is unquestioned, and we have Professor Cacace to thank for much of this through his continuing leadership and the work of his academic children—and their children in turn.

Happy Birthday Fulvio!

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